

# GENERAL LYLES:

## Individuals key to AFMC’s transformation success

**BY GEN. LESTER L. LYLES**  
Air Force Materiel Command commander

**WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB, Ohio (AFMCNS)**—Recently, I discussed with you my expectations for Air Force Materiel Command transformation: to develop an expeditionary mindset; become more innovative, adaptive and responsive; operate more effectively and efficiently; and be easier to do business with.

These expectations enable the command’s vision to provide military capabilities through superior acquisition and sustainment for Defense Department warfighters and their allies—now and in the future.

We now have more than 200 initiatives across the command to meet these expectations, and I could not be more proud of your efforts to improve our support to the warfighter!

Major efforts such as Depot Maintenance Reengineering Transformation, the Spares Campaign, Predictive Support Awareness, Agile Acquisition, Test and Evaluation Transformation, the Air Force Research Laboratory’s capability integration efforts and our scientist and engineer recruiting and retention initiatives, to name a few, are leading our journey.

Divestiture of nonessential efforts has proven to be a great way to rein-

vest resources to provide direct pay-back to the warfighter. Since August, almost 300 divestiture candidates have been submitted, resulting in eliminating, improving or resolving misunderstandings for each candidate. The secretary of the Air Force and the chief of staff are our champions for these divestiture efforts, which have eliminated almost 60,000 hours of nonessential work to date.

As these initiatives continue, we are working with the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Acquisition Dr. Marvin Sambur and his team to streamline our acquisition processes. Until recently, we focused on individual weapon system programs through the Integrated Weapons System Management philosophy.

This approach proved to be very successful as a fundamental strategy to improve specific, or vertical, program life cycle management and accountability, but the increasing demands for interoperability and commonality demand a new way of doing business.

In order to meet those demands and promote horizontal integration, we developed the product enterprise concept. This approach provides integrated solutions by shifting our focus away from platform-centric thinking and toward capabilities- and effects-

based thinking. To focus attention on these enterprises, our product center commanders were assigned as enterprise leaders for each product enterprise established: command and control, aeronautics, armament, and space and ballistic missiles.

This approach provided an ideal foundation for Capabilities-Based Life Cycle Management—a new direction for Air Force Materiel Command and Air Force acquisition that will provide a set of fully supportable, integrated solutions capable of meeting the needs and effects required by the warfighter.

Our first step in this new direction is the Agile Acquisition Concept of Operations I recently signed with Dr. Sambur which formalizes our partnership with Air Force acquisition. It clearly delineates their role as the lead for acquisition policy and processes and Air Force Materiel Command’s vital role as the supporting organization providing people, resources, tools and expertise.

We are now working together with Dr. Sambur and his team to reengineer processes and implement this concept of operations in the most effective and efficient manner. Our joint goal remains unchanged: to meet the warfighter’s needs!

This concept of operations and

our other transformation initiatives are enabling us to continue providing world-class support in an ever-changing environment. Transformation in AFMC is not just a matter of doing things better, faster or cheaper. It is the evolution of our command to grow with the Air Force and take the necessary steps to ensure we continue to meet our warfighters’ needs.

I am very excited about our future! We are well on our way in this transformation journey and there are a multitude of opportunities to progress even farther. We will meet future demands by reengineering our processes and continuing to fulfill our responsibilities to train, organize and equip an outstanding team of research and development, acquisition, sustainment, and test and evaluation professionals.

Our mission is complicated, yet no one in the world does it better! I hear this often from leaders across the Air Force and the warfighting commands.

We have been in operation for more than 50 years in one form or another, with processes growing to meet changing Air Force requirements. Your part in this journey is key to our success as we continue to reengineer our processes and transform AFMC to enhance our support to the warfighter.

### Commissary bins for recyclables only

The Kirtland AFB Recycling Program has containers for collecting recyclable newspaper, cardboard and aluminum cans at the north end of the Commissary’s east parking. These are not trash bins.

Kirtland AFB members who live both on and off base are encouraged

to recycle these items at this location. Other items such as glass and plastics are not recycled by the base program and recyclers should find off base locations for these items.

Do not leave these items or any other refuse items in this area or in the recycling containers.

### Contact Center moves to 24-hour ops

**RANDOLPH AFB, Texas (AFPN)** — Airmen everywhere can talk with customer service agents about personnel issues 24 hours a day thanks to the recently expanded hours of the Air Force Contact Center.

People with questions about assignments, benefits, pay and more can speak to a customer service representative toll-free at 866-229-7074 or DSN 665-5000.

Online services, which include a chat feature, can be found at [www.afpc.randolph.af.mil](http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil) by clicking the Contact Center button.

# Transforming the Sword

## Summit V forges air armament future

BY TECH. SGT. ROBERT MILLIGAN

Air Armament Center Public Affairs

EGLIN AFB, Fla.—Meeting the warfighter’s needs for the next quarter century was the focus March 11 to 13 as stakeholders gathered for the Air Armament Center’s fifth annual Air Armament Summit.

With “Transforming the Sword” as its theme, the summit culminates a year-long process during which air armament stakeholders assess ideas and options for armament modernization, planning and acquisition to effectively meet the warfighter’s needs for the next 25 years, said Col. Pamela Arias, armament product group director.

The annual event brings together senior air armament stakeholders from government, industry and academia. Also represented were top international companies in the aerospace industry and representatives from the governments of Algeria, Belgium, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Japan, Korea, the United Kingdom, Canada and Australia.

One of the most recognizable successes of recent summits was developing a weaponized unmanned aerial vehicle, the Predator, with Hellfire missile capability, Arias said, noting that the Predator has been used with great success in the war on terrorism.

Arias said this is the first year the Air Force’s new effects-based concept of operations and capabilities focus process was used to establish the value of programs and technologies to meet the requirements the warfighting community established. This year’s summit panels analyzed the following areas: Global environment, threat and military strategy; integrated armament planning; science and technology; digital modeling, simulation and analysis; and

the industrial base and resources.

“The warfighter sets the requirements and they are the ones who lead the panels,” Arias said.

Of the six capability focus areas, Arias said the two stakeholders looked at most during this Summit were the ability to penetrate hard and deeply buried targets and time sensitive targets.

Hard and deeply buried targets require smart fused bombs that can penetrate a hardened bunker with multiple layers and detonate at some point to take out a given target based on intelligence information, she said. The time sensitive targets area requires weapons with two-way data link capability

that can loiter in the area and communicate with ground, air and space based stations.

“We’re missing the boat if the weapons can’t be redirected to other targets after launch and if they can’t communicate, real-time, with other data linked systems in the battlespace,” Arias said. “The weapon is the last element in the kill chain and is in the best position to report to decisionmakers, specific close-up information about the target throughout the flight path as well as milliseconds before the target is neutralized.”

The summit concluded with a gala event March 13. Gen. John Jumper, Air Force chief of staff, was the distinguished speaker.

There was also a patriotic tribute to our men and women in uniform by country entertainer, local resident Daron Norwood.

“In the Air Force, you never go to war by yourself,” he said, recognizing the summit participation of our sister services and allied nation partners.

“We serve the greatest Air Force on the planet,” Jumper said, “With a belief that we are committed to something greater than ourselves.”

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**Gen. John P. Jumper**  
**Chief of Staff**

## Secretary of AF urges civilians to register family contact data

RANDOLPH AFB, Texas—Air Force civilian employees can benefit from the same next-of-kin notification process provided to the families of injured or killed uniformed Airmen by providing their emergency contact information on a secure electronic file.

“So far very few of our civilians have registered. This is a great service to our total force that has never existed before,” said Dr. James G. Roche, secretary of the Air Force.

“This is the right thing to do. I hope our Air Force civilians, commanders and supervisors will do their best to ensure everyone knows about the online Emergency Data System and how to sign-up,” he said.

The electronic form, on the personnel center Web site takes most people about 15 minutes to complete, officials said. It asks them questions about which relatives should be contacted in an emergency and what are their addresses and phone numbers, officials said.

“With this system we have immediate access to civilian emergency contact information. But it only works if people take a few minutes on behalf of their families to provide the necessary data,” said Thomas Perry, Air Force Personnel Center Casualty Division chief.

Currently, most civilians’ emergency contact information resides only in the desk file of a person’s supervisor and is not much help in the many cases where the supervisor is unavailable or access to the desk is impossible, officials said.

“It’s important that we be able to locate and notify family members as quickly as possible after a casualty mishap,” Perry said.

“We want to be able to do something we couldn’t do immediately after Sept. 11, ensure we provide family members accurate and timely information about civilian Air Force people involved in an attack or an accident,” he said.

Civilian members can access their record by logging on the AFPC secure Web page at [www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/emds/default.htm](http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/emds/default.htm). New users will need to first establish an account. Once logged in, civilians should press the “EMDS” button to access the form.

For more information about the civilian Emergency Data System call the Air Force Contact Center, 866-229-7074.